

News Release

September 19, 2010 No.: RA-10-13 FEMA Region VIII News Desk (303) 235-4908 Brian Hyer Utah Dept. of Public Safety (801) 541-8145, bhyer@utah.gov

FEMA AUTHORIZES FUNDS TO HELP FIGHT MACHINE GUN FIRE IN SALT LAKE COUNTY

DENVER, Colo. -- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has authorized the use of federal funds to help with firefighting costs for the Machine Gun Fire burning near Herriman in Salt Lake County.

FEMA approved Utah's request for a federal Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) today at 9:10 p.m. MDT. At the time of the state's request, the fire had forced the evacuation of between 200 and 250 homes.

The authorization makes FEMA funding available to pay 75 percent of the state's eligible firefighting costs under an approved grant for managing, mitigating and controlling designated fires. These grants **do not** provide assistance to individual home or business owners and do not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire.

Fire Management Assistance Grants are provided through the President's Disaster Relief Fund and made available by FEMA to assist in fighting fires that threaten to cause a major disaster. Eligible items can include expenses for field camps; equipment use, repair and replacement; mobilization and demobilization activities; and tools, materials and supplies.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders and to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.